

Minutes for RBAC Meeting: April 5, 2023

7:00 – 9:00 pm, virtual Webex meeting

In attendance online: Bryan Barnett-Woods, Olivia Bobrowsky, Nancy Breen, Sophie Chan-Wood, Jake Jubiek, David Myles, Carl Peterson, Mark Pierzchala, Shannon Brescher Shea and Dave Stinchcomb.

Nancy started the meeting at 7:04 pm with an announcement that this meeting will be recorded. She asked for the March minutes to be approved. Jake motioned to accept them with no objections.

(1) David provided the **City Council update** and advised to petition for more budget items to support bike infrastructure. The projection for Fiscal Year 2025 will be possible higher property taxes. Capital improvement projects are being reviewed to help with the current budget to curb spending.

Mark suggested the URL for the meeting be placed on the RBAC website or sent as a calendar invitation for easier accessibility. The last budget meeting was a 5.5-hour session, but the budget was pushed back to City staff to look for reductions. He has biked all the streets of Rockville about 6 to 7 times already. Riding in Twinbrook now with lots of hills and tracking all streets in Strava. He hopes to finish up by the end of April.

Nancy thanked Jake, Olivia and Joe for presenting at the budget meeting. She also thanked Shannon for her background work. She wondered how it was received by councilmembers. David said it was a good presentation but wasn't sure about the priority since funding is always the concern. Mark agreed and the presentation was very well-done and well-rehearsed. He reminded us to keep asking every year especially with new councilmembers coming into a new term.

For the next budget meeting on April 17, feel free to submit more testimonials. Dave confirmed that RPAC submitted a budget letter (see attached).

(2) In the **City Update**, Bryan announced a public meeting on Thursday, May 4 for the Fleet and Monroe Complete Street project. This will be a virtual meeting from 7:30 pm to 8 pm.

[Here is the link to join:

<https://rockvillemd.webex.com/rockvillemd/j.php?MTID=me03f83cf3ba303c277ed2aa2d1cce6b5>]

On May 18 there will be a public meeting for input on the concept designs of the Beall Ave Protected Intersection project. This virtual meeting will be held from 7 pm to 8:30 pm.

<https://rockvillemd.webex.com/rockvillemd/j.php?MTID=m2ad01bc4d60fd63a0e93aafb59213daa>]

The Town Center road diet construction will be ongoing. Sidewalk part on E Middle Lane should be completed by end of April. Milling on E Middle Lane in the second or third week of May may affect the Ride of Silence route. Sophie will touch base with an alternative route option.

Bryan provided updates on two feasibility studies: (1) the shared use path project on Scott and Veirs Drive and (2) the Stonestreet feasibility project. SHA is making progress and getting ready for procurement and RFP stages. There has been a lot of back and forth to iron out details due to the federal grant funding.

The City is doing sidewalk feasibility analysis with some of the segments on this list (Under Sidewalk Construction Feasibility: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/2393/Vision-Zero-Projects>) Walk the Block meetings will be held on April 11, 18 and 27 at 5:30 pm. These will be informational with hopes to solicit comments and feedback on these sites. Other questions should be directed to Bryan or Andrew Leutkemeier as listed on the website.

Listening sessions for the Town Center Master Plan are available with dates online: <https://engagerockville.com/towncenter> The purpose is to learn about the goals of the master plan. Good opportunity to share ideas on bike facilities or any other suggestions. If you can't attend, written comments can be submitted to Bryan too.

Bryan introduced the concept designs for the Fleet and Monroe Complete Streets Project. Engineering plans were shared (see attached) with three basic concepts: (1A) shared use path on Fleet and Monroe Streets; (1B) bi-directional cycle track on both streets, shared use path on Monroe Street from Monroe Place to E Middle Ln; (1C) one-way street with parking (versus two-way street with no parking).

There will be a public meeting on May 6 for more feedback. RBAC agreed to move forward with design option 1A and will submit a letter of support.

(3) Jake provided an update on the **Tour de Cookie** in Jonathan's absence. The 2 routes have been tested and almost ready to be recommended to the Tree House. They are looking for ride marshals to help. Please sign up on their website at: <https://treehousemd.org/tour-de-cookie/volunteer-opportunities/>

(4) Nancy requested volunteers to lead **RBAC bike rides**. We will have a new Meetup site but keep the Bike Rockville name/logo. Cost of Meetup about \$200 a year. Carl can direct members of his Meetup site to the Bike Rockville Facebook page in the meantime. Olivia and Sophie volunteered to help set up the new Meetup group.

The **Bike Month Kick-off Ride** will be on Saturday, April 29 at 10 am, where Mayor and City Council will be invited. Sophie can lead, Nancy can sweep and Jake can help too.

The Summer Rec Guide ad is also due. So ride dates will need to be determined soon.

A supplemental meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 19 to develop group rides and ride leader volunteer discussions. Recap of what ride leaders will be responsible for would be helpful. Nancy will send email invitation and Sophie will follow-up with Google doc to sign up to volunteer.

[<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1YCPum2GpdZiuYzvEnUAbMDrBAv7E9imQNVyZVsQc4PQ/edit?usp=sharing>]

Foe **Bike to School Day on May 3**, there will be 3 schools participating in Rockville. We hope to hear reports and see photos from Tracy, Shannon and Julie Palakovich-Carr at our next meeting.

Agenda items on contributory negligence legislation, the RBAC logo and RPAC Updates were tabled to the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophie Chan-Wood



The Honorable Mayor Bridget O'Donnell Newton
The Honorable Councilmember Monique Ashton
The Honorable Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg
The Honorable Councilmember David Myles, M.D.
The Honorable Councilmember Mark Pierzchela
City of Rockville
111 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Madame Mayor and Councilmembers,

Thank you for your strong support for Vision Zero as evidenced by the \$8.1 million in new appropriations across seven Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) that support Vision Zero. We appreciate the dedications of time and resources to our shared goal of zero traffic-related deaths and serious injuries in Rockville by 2030.

We urge you to adopt the County's Budget Equity Tool as a mandatory financial management policy to be utilized by each department in the creation of their respective budgets. We support the use of the Tool in the prioritization of CIP projects, however we request that the Tool's score for each CIP be included on project pages.

On behalf of the members of the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee, I present to you our current budget priorities for FY2024. We acknowledge that not all of these projects and initiatives may be funded in a single fiscal year. However, we believe that sharing our complete list with you is helpful during your deliberations.

Fiscal Year 2024 Priorities

- Add 1 FTE to support the Vision Zero Coordinator
- Create budget line item for Walktober to support annual events through creation of pins, stickers, and other promotional items
- Fund the implementation of pedestrian recall as the default for all pedestrian signals in the City.
- Fund the design and creation of materials on parking lot safety and resources for pedestrians.
- Include crosswalks in any arts and culture projects involving asphalt art, as referenced to during Community Forum on March 6, 2023
- Support the goal of having 100% of sidewalks installed through the Sidewalks (TE21) CIP project as scheduled
- Request that portion of remaining ARPA funds or tax duplications funds be designated for Vision Zero projects
- Support increase in base pay for RCPD officers to remain competitive with Montgomery County PD in order to ensure recruitment stays on target
- Increase in funding for sidewalks to \$300,000 minimum (TE21) to stay on track with Vision Zero goal

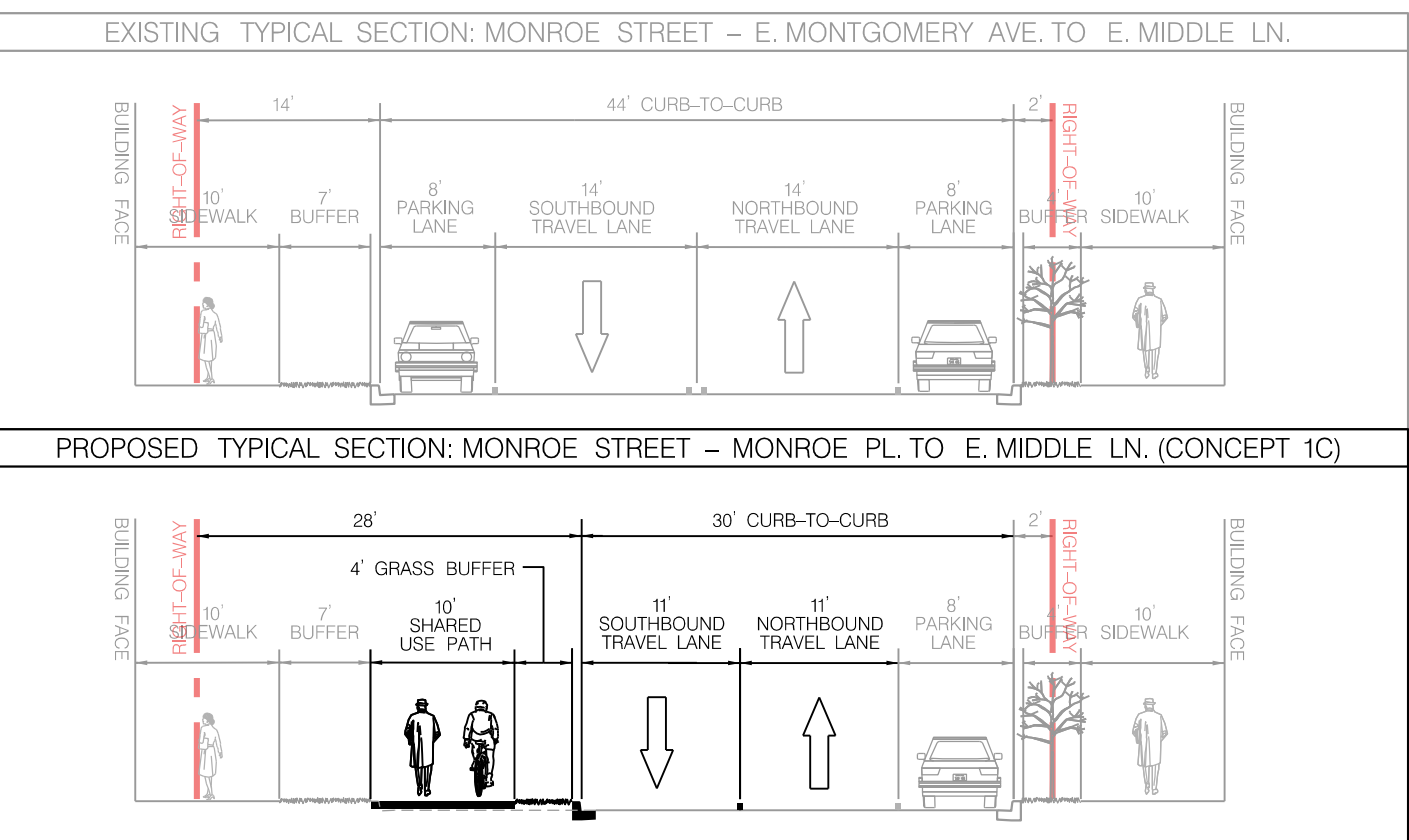
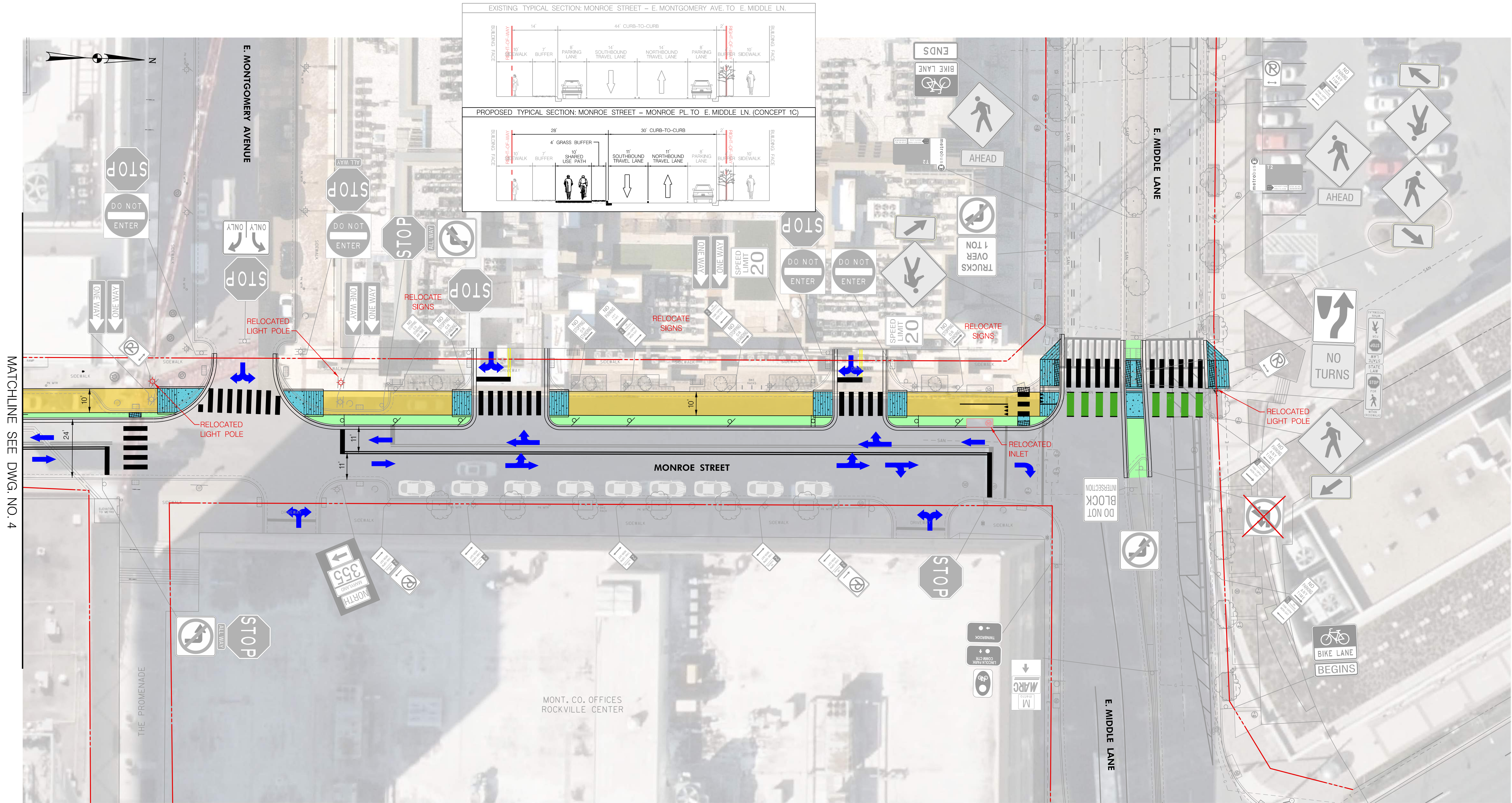
- Increase administrative FTEs to ensure timely assistance to City residents reporting sidewalk and other walkability concerns
- Increase from \$200,000 in Sidewalks (TE21) to \$400,000 - last year it was
- Include additional funding in RedGate Park Master Plan Implementation (RE23) to improve pedestrian access and address pedestrian safety concerns around the Park
- Support for \$650,250 for LED Streetlight Conversion (TA22)
- Support for \$545,000 in Asphalt/Concrete Improvements: FY21-FY25 (RA21)
- Support for \$4 million in Asphalt Repair and Replacement: FY21-FY25 (TA21)
- Support for \$2.4 million in Concrete Repair and Replacement: FY21-FY25 (TC21)
- Support for \$100,000 in Bridge Rehabilitation: FY21-FY25 (TB21)
- Support for \$200,000 in Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety (TD21)
- Support for \$557,759 to complete Promenade Park Elevator Replacement (RD21) (aka the elevator access to the pedestrian bridge to Rockville Metro from RTC side)
- Support for Scott-Veirs Drive Shared-Use Path (TA23) - no amount noted yet
- Support for Town Center Road Diet (TB22) - no amount noted yet
- Support for Traffic Signal at E. Middle Lane/Helen Heneghan Way (TF21) should one still be needed after implementation of Town Center Road Diet

If you have any questions, please reach out to me at marissa.rpac@gmail.com or by phone at 301-906-6550.

Thank you for your consideration of RPAC priorities during your budget work sessions.

Sincerely,

Marissa Valeri, Chair and
the Members of the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee



Mead & Hunt
7055 SAMUEL MORSE DRIVE
SUITE 100
COLUMBIA, MD 21046
(443) 741-3500 PHONE
WWW.MEADHUNT.COM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CITY OF
ROCKVILLE
111 MARYLAND AVE. ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

DESIGNED B. WHITE
DRAFTED C. KELLER
CHECKED B. WHITE

DESIGN PLAN APPROVAL
PKW* _____ SCP* _____
SMP* _____ REVIEWED BY _____
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS APPROVAL DATE _____

AS BUILT PLAN APPROVAL
CHIEF, CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT APPROVAL DATE _____

CONCEPT IC

MONROE STREET FROM E. MIDDLE LANE TO FLEET STREET
COMPLETE STREETS STUDY
Election District No. 2 City of Rockville, Maryland

APPROVAL OF REVISIONS AFTER INITIAL PLAN APPROVAL
DATE SUBMITTED
OCTOBER 2022
SCALE
1"=20'
SHEET
NO. 5
OF 5
FILE #